

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Monday, September 14, 2009**

**BAY AREA PERFORMER COMES TO PHX STAGE – DONATES PROCEEDS**

*Phoenix, AZ* – San Francisco-based performance artist **SHANNON deJONG** explores a heated topic relevant to every American in a devastatingly honest, no-holds-barred performance of medication, madness, modern life, and Generation “Me.”

15% of proceeds donated to AZ chapter of Nat’l Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)\*.

Written and performed by deJong and directed by Tanya Taylor Rubinstein, “**BURST**” is based on deJong’s personal experience of Bipolar 2, corporate life, and tragic familial loss.

Set against our multi-tasking, pill-popping, instant-gratification culture – with skyrocketing mental illness – “**BURST**” is a fast-paced, powerful show that unabashedly examines with humor and wit how we define what’s “crazy” and what’s “sane,” what’s “real” and what’s “illusion,” and what effects these definitions have on the contemporary mind, psyche, and soul.

*“BRILLIANT – beautifully acted, directed, and the script is amazing... everyone in the audience was awed.” – Rosemary Zibart, Journalist (Parade Magazine, USA Today)*

*I left completely speechless and full of emotion. ... thank you for speaking about a delicate issue with integrity, with poetry and pure artistry, with tenderness and with humor.”*  
– Michelle Vest, writer/performer of “Sole Stories”

Enter: psychiatrists, pharmacists, cartwheels, coffee, online dating, Zen, “sexual indiscretions,” Buddha, Jesus, Vietnam, enlightenment and the universal quest for health, authenticity, & happiness – all in an 80-minute, one-woman show:

**“BURST”**

*One weekend only!*    **Friday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:30pm**  
**MADCAP Theaters**  
**730 South Mill Ave. Tempe**  
**\$15\*** For Tickets: [www.MadcapTheaters.com](http://www.MadcapTheaters.com)

***\*15% of proceeds after costs donated to local AZ chapter of Nat’l Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)***

**Contact:**

For more info. contact [pr@shannondejong.com](mailto:pr@shannondejong.com), visit [www.shannondejong.com](http://www.shannondejong.com) or call 510.710.7765 (voice message); 480.495.2514 (local)

**About:**



Shannon deJong is a San Francisco-based performance artist, writer, dancer and linguist who performs in the Bay Area and Southwest to sold out shows. A theater performer for nearly 2 decades, deJong draws on her background of dance, film, competitive gymnastics, creative writing, street performance, world travel and theater to explore the intersection of identity, culture and spirituality.

*“Shannon is not an ordinary human being... She has the spunk of Punky Brewster, the mind of General Patton, and the awkward neuroticism of Woody Allen. She is lively, honest — full of piss and vinegar.”* —Scott Lifton, producer of *Mortified SF*

**Contact:** For more info. contact [pr@shannondejong.com](mailto:pr@shannondejong.com), visit [www.shannondejong.com](http://www.shannondejong.com) or call 510.710.7765 (voice message only)

